

US Application No. 10/569,333
Declaration of Dr. Gerhard Auer

I, Gerhard Auer, hereby declare that:

1. I have a Ph. D. in chemistry from the University of Dortmund (Germany). I have conducted research in the area of inorganic chemistry with a focus on titanium dioxide and iron sulfate for approximately 20 years. I am currently R&D Manager at crenox GmbH (former Tronox Pigments GmbH). My résumé is attached.
2. I read the application text of US Application No. 10/596,333 including the presently pending claims, the office action of July 7, 2009 and the prior art cited by the Examiner, namely DE 10014468 to Kehrmann and US 4,784,691 to Rasmussen.
3. The present application relates to a hydraulic binder comprising cement as main constituent, a mixture of a chromate reducer and a carrier material, and a mineral acid regulator added to the chromate reducer. The chromate reducer contains two iron II sulfate components, namely filter salt obtained during titanium dioxide production, and copperas.

Copperas is iron sulfate heptahydrate ($\text{FeSO}_4 \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$).

Filter salt is a mixture of metal sulfates that essentially consists of iron (II) sulfate monohydrate as well as other metal sulfates and significant amounts of free sulfuric acid.

4. The use of copperas as chromate reducer in cement was known prior to the filing date of the present application. For example, Kehrmann teaches a particular way of using copperas accordingly, namely in combination with limestone.
5. Enclosed herewith is a technical report (TB-QSA 0094/2010/F) which was established by the independent Research Institute of the Association of German Cement Industry (Verein der deutschen Zementindustrie GmbH) on the activity of different chromate reducers. In this report, sample A contains pure copperas (with only traces of CaCO_3 (limestone)) while samples B to E contain different amounts of CaCO_3 as an acid regulator (see table under item 2 of the report). It is evident, that the combinations of copperas, filter salt and CaCO_3 (samples C to E) are superior to copperas (sample A) and filter salt including CaCO_3 (sample B) with respect to chromate reduction upon grinding the samples together with cement (see table 3.2).

It should be noted that the acid regulator CaCO_3 merely has the function of a neutralizing agent to enhance the pH value of the strong acidic filter salt containing mixtures (samples B to E) which results from the production process of filter salt (i.e. the titanium dioxide production). The increase in the

pH allows a safe handling of the samples. This increase is however not necessary in the case of pure copperas (sample A) since copperas does not contain considerable amounts of sulfuric acid to be neutralized.

Moreover, if CaCO_3 were added to copperas in the amounts as specified in item 2 of the enclosed test report, this would result in a product having different properties such as a higher pH value and different oxidation properties as compared to samples B to E. Thus, the differences in the amount of CaCO_3 allows an appropriate comparison between sample A and samples B to E, whereas the same addition amounts of CaCO_3 in all samples would affect the comparability. According to experience, the addition of CaCO_3 to copperas would result in a decrease in chromate reduction owing to the increasing pH value and the partially oxidation of copperas.

In summary, mixtures of copperas, filter salt and an acid regulator such as CaCO_3 represent excellent chromate reducers and are even superior to filter salt or copperas alone or in combination with an acid regulator with respect to chromate reduction in cement upon grinding the chromate reducer together with cement.

6. I declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true.

Date:

2010-10-05

Gerhard Auer

Dr. Gerhard Auer

Encl.

TB-QSA 0094/2010/F and English translation thereof

Forschungsinstitut der Zementindustrie GmbH

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Amtsgericht Düsseldorf
HRB-Nr.: 55438

Technischer Bericht

TB-QSA 0094/2010/F

Untersuchung der Wirksamkeit von Chromat reduzierern

Untersuchung der Wirksamkeit von Chromatreduzierern

Auftraggeber: Ferro Duo GmbH
Auftragsdatum: 12.02.2010
Bestell-Nr. des Auftraggebers:
Unsere Auftragsnummer: 2010/0137
Projektleiter: Herr Dr. Baetzner
Bearbeiter: Frau Engel
Abteilung: Qualitätssicherung und Analytik
Ausgestellt am: 28.07.2010
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Untersuchungsumfang

Es wurden zwei Materialien vom Kunden geliefert, eine Probe mit der Bezeichnung „Grünsalz“ und eine Probe mit der Bezeichnung „Filtersalz“. Die Proben wurden sowohl in der Anlieferungsform als auch in unterschiedliche Mischungen miteinander geprüft.

Zusätzlich wurden unterschiedliche Gemische mit Referenzzement hergestellt, zum Einen durch Vermischen und zum Anderen durch gemeinsames Vermahlen. Der Referenzzement wurde zur Bestimmung des Ausgangschromatgehaltes mit untersucht.

1.1 Mischungen

Probe A: Grünsalz

Probe B: Filtersalz

Probe C: Grünsalz und Filtersalz im Verhältnis 1:1

Probe D: Grünsalz und Filtersalz im Verhältnis 3:1

Probe E: Grünsalz und Filtersalz im Verhältnis 5:1

1.2 Dosierungen

Von allen Proben wurden Mischungen sowie Vermahlungen mit 0,1 M.-%, 0,2 M.-%, 0,3 M.-% und 0,4 M.-% Zugabe des Chromatreduzierers zum VDZ-Referenzzement hergestellt.

Die Mischungen wurden durch gemeinsames Vermischen der Reduzierer mit 2,5 kg Zement über einen Zeitraum von 30 Minuten im Taumelmischer hergestellt.

Die Vermahlungen erfolgten durch gemeinsames Vermahlen der Reduzierer mit 2,5 kg Zement in einer Kugelmühle über einen Zeitraum von 60 Minuten.

2 Chemische Untersuchungen

Von den Ausgangsmaterialien wurde der Gehalt an Calciumcarbonat durch Ermittlung des Kohlendioxidgehaltes nach DIN EN 196-2 sowie der pH-Wert nach DIN EN 12176 bestimmt.

Von den Mischungen wurde der Gehalt an Calciumcarbonat aus den Gehalten der Ausgangsmaterialien berechnet und zusätzlich der pH-Wert nach DIN EN 12176 bestimmt.

	Grünsalz	Filtersalz	Grünsalz / Filtersalz 1:1	Grünsalz / Filtersalz 3:1	Grünsalz / Filtersalz 5:1
	A	B	C	D	E
pH-Wert	3,0	4,5	4,5	4,3	3,8
CaCO ₃	M.-%	<0,01	8,6	4,3	2,2

3 Wirksamkeitsuntersuchungen

Die Analysen wurden gemäß DIN 196-10 sowohl mit als auch ohne Oxidationsschritt durchgeführt. Im Nachfolgenden sind, wie in der Norm gefordert, nur die höheren Chromatgehalte aus beiden Bestimmungen aufgeführt.

3.1 Wirksamkeit bei Vermischung

Zugabemenge Reduzierer	Referenz- zement	Grünsalz	Filtersalz	Grünsalz / Filtersalz 1:1	Grünsalz / Filtersalz 3:1	Grünsalz / Filtersalz 5:1
		A	B	C	D	E
	0,0 M.-%	15,1 ppm				
0,7 kg/t/ ppm	0,1 M.-%		0,2 ppm	10,0 ppm	2,2 ppm	0,3 ppm
1,3 kg/t/ ppm	0,2 M.-%		<0,1 ppm	5,3 ppm	0,1 ppm	0,1 ppm
2,0 kg/t/ ppm	0,3 M.-%		<0,1 ppm	0,5 ppm	<0,1 ppm	0,2 ppm
2,7 kg/t/ ppm	0,4 M.-%		<0,1 ppm	<0,1 ppm	<0,1 ppm	0,1 ppm

Bei dem hier untersuchten Grünsalz reicht eine Zugabemenge von 0,7 kg Reduzierer pro ppm Chromatgehalt und t Zement aus, um eine nahezu vollständige Reduktionswirkung zu erzielen. Beim Filtersalz muss die dreifache Menge eingesetzt werden. Bei den Mischungen aus beiden Materialien führt eine Zudosierung von 1,3 kg/t/ ppm Reduzierer zu einer nahezu vollständigen Reduktionswirkung.

3.2 Wirksamkeit bei Vermahlung

Zugabemenge Reduzierer	Referenz- zement	Grünsalz	Filtersalz	Grünsalz / Filtersalz 1:1	Grünsalz / Filtersalz 3:1	Grünsalz / Filtersalz 5:1
		A	B	C	D	E
	0,0 M.-%	15,1 ppm				
0,7 kg/t/ ppm	0,1 M.-%		3,5 ppm	9,5 ppm	2,8 ppm	0,1 ppm
1,3 kg/t/ ppm	0,2 M.-%		1,2 ppm	2,6 ppm	<0,1 ppm	<0,1 ppm
2,0 kg/t/ ppm	0,3 M.-%		<0,1 ppm	<0,1 ppm	<0,1 ppm	<0,1 ppm
2,7 kg/t/ ppm	0,4 M.-%		0,1 ppm	<0,1 ppm	<0,1 ppm	<0,1 ppm

Bei der gemeinsamen Vermahlung müssen sowohl bei dem hier untersuchten Grünsalz als auch bei dem Filtersalz mindestens 2,0 kg Reduzierer pro ppm Chromatgehalt und t Zement zugegeben werden, um eine vollständige Reduktionswirkung zu erzielen. Beim Grünsalz wird bei einer Zugabemenge von 1,3 kg/t/ ppm zumindest ein Restchromatgehalt kleiner als 2 ppm erreicht. Bei den Mischungen aus beiden Materialien führen hingegen schon Dosierungen von 1,3 kg/t/ ppm Reduzierer bei der Probe C und von nur 0,7 kg/t/ ppm Reduzierer bei den Proben D und E zu einer nahezu vollständigen Reduktionswirkung.

Forschungsinstitut der Zementindustrie GmbH

Abteilung Qualitätssicherung und Analytik

ppa. Dr. Silvan Baetzner

i. V. Dr. Gerhard Spanka

Translation of a Technical Report drawn up by "Forschungsinstitut der Zementindustrie GmbH"

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**Forschungsinstitut der Zementindustrie GmbH
Quality Assurance and Analytics**

Technical Report

TB-QSA 0094/2010/F

Examination of the effectiveness of chromate reducers

Examination of the effectiveness of chromate reducers

Client:	Ferro Duo GmbH
Date of order:	February 12, 2010
Client's order no.:	-
Our order no.:	2010/0137
Project manager:	Dr. Baetzner
Person in charge:	Ms. Engel
Department:	Quality Assurance and Analytics
Issued on:	July 28, 2010
Scope of report:	4 pages

Scope of examination

The client supplied two materials, one sample designated "copperas" and one sample designated "filter salt". The samples were examined both in the form as supplied and together in different mixtures.

In addition, different mixtures with reference cement were prepared, on the one hand by mixing and on the other by co-grinding. The reference cement was also examined in order to determine the starting chromate content.

1.1 Mixtures

- Sample A: copperas
- Sample B: filter salt
- Sample C: copperas and filter salt in a 1:1 ratio
- Sample D: copperas and filter salt in a 3:1 ratio
- Sample E: copperas and filter salt in a 5:1 ratio

1.2 Dosages

Mixtures and grindings in which 0.1 M%, 0.2 M%, 0.3 M%, and 0.4 M% chromate reducer were added to the VDZ reference cement were prepared for all of the samples.

The mixtures were prepared by co-mixing the reducers with 2.5 kg cement for 30 minutes in a tumbling mixer.

Grinding occurred by co-grinding the reducers with 2.5 kg cement in a ball mill for 60 minutes.

2. Chemical tests

The content of calcium carbonate of the starting materials was determined by measuring the content of carbon dioxide in accordance with DIN EN 196-2, and the pH of the starting materials was determined in accordance with DIN EN 12176. The calcium carbonate content of the mixtures was calculated based on the contents of the starting materials and the pH was additionally determined in accordance with DIN EN 127176.

		Copperas	Filter salt	Copperas/filter salt 1:1	Copperas/filter salt 3:1	Copperas/filter salt 5:1
		A	B	C	D	E
pH		3.0	4.5	4.5	4.3	3.8
CaCO ₃	M%	<0.01	8.6	4.3	2.2	1.4

3. Examination of effectiveness

The analyses were performed, in accordance with DIN 196-10, both with and without an oxidation step. In the following, only the higher chromate contents from both determinations are stated, as required by the standard.

3.1 Effectiveness when mixed

Amount of reducer added		Reference cement	Copperas	Filter salt	Copperas/filter salt 1:1	Copperas/filter salt 3:1	Copperas/filter salt 5:1
			A	B	C	D	E
	0.0 M%	15.1 ppm					
0.7 kg/t/ppm	0.1 M%		0.2 ppm	10.0 ppm	2.2 ppm	0.3 ppm	0.4 ppm
1.3 kg/t/ppm	0.2 M%		<0.1 ppm	5.3 ppm	0.1 ppm	0.1 ppm	0.2 ppm
2.0 kg/t/ppm	0.3 M%		<0.1 ppm	0.5 ppm	<0.1 ppm	0.2 ppm	0.1 ppm
2.7 kg/t/ppm	0.4 M%		<0.1 ppm	<0.1 ppm	<0.1 ppm	<0.1 ppm	0.1 ppm

An amount of 0.7 kg reducer added per ppm chromate content and t cement is sufficient for the copperas examined in order to achieve a reduction that is almost complete. Three times as much must be used for the filter salt. For the mixtures of both materials, an addition of 1.3 kg/t/ppm reducer results in a reduction that is almost complete.

3.2 Effectiveness when ground

Amount of reducer added		Reference cement	Copperas	Filter salt	Copperas/filter salt 1:1	Copperas/filter salt 3:1	Copperas/filter salt 5:1
			A	B	C	D	E
	0.0 M%	15.1 ppm					
0.7 kg/t/ppm	0.1 M%		3.5 ppm	9.5 ppm	2.8 ppm	0.1 ppm	<0.1 ppm
1.3 kg/t/ppm	0.2 M%		1.2 ppm	2.6 ppm	<0.1 ppm	<0.1 ppm	<0.1 ppm
2.0 kg/t/ppm	0.3 M%		<0.1 ppm	<0.1 ppm	<0.1 ppm	<0.1 ppm	<0.1 ppm
2.7 kg/t/ppm	0.4 M%		0.1 ppm	<0.1 ppm	<0.1 ppm	<0.1 ppm	<0.1 ppm

In the case of co-grinding, at least 2.0 kg reducer per ppm chromate content and t cement must be added both to the copperas examined and the filter salt in order to achieve a complete reduction. If an amount of 1.3 kg/t/ppm is added to copperas, at least a residual chromate content of smaller than 2 ppm is achieved. However, when both materials are mixed, an almost complete reduction is achieved in sample C if 1.3 kg/t/ppm reducer is added and in samples D and E if as little as 0.7 kg/t/ppm is added.

Forschungsinstitut der Zementindustrie GmbH
Department Quality Assurance and Analytics

ppa. Dr. Silvan Baetzner

pp. Dr. Gerhard Spanka

Further information, e.g. on measurement devices, measurement methods, measurement uncertainties and other method characteristics, can be provided on request. Unless specified differently by the client, the samples will be discarded four weeks after the report has been drawn up.